

FREDERICK COUNTY  
Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)  
Meeting Minutes

DATE: Monday, August 13, 2012

LOCATION: Division of Fire and Rescue Services  
Public Safety Training Facility  
5370 Public Safety Place  
Frederick, MD

ATTENDEES: Dewey Foreman, HAZMAT Vol.; Richard Himes, FC-DFRS; Chip Jewell, FC-DEC; Tom Meunier, FC-DPW; Seamus Mooney, FC-DEP; Doug Orner, VFRA; Judy Peterson, Red Cross; Barbara Brookmyer, FCHD; David Dunn, County Manager; Todd Johnson, Frederick CAA; Tom Owens, FC-DFRS; David Chisholm, FMH; Alison Northcraft, MD-DHMH; Dave Martin, FCSO; Ross Smith, NIH/NCI; Greg Gautney, FMH; Steve Cooper, FC-DEP

Vice Chairman Mooney called the meeting to order at 0830 hours, followed by introduction of those in attendance.

MEETING MINUTES:

- A motion was made by D. Orner and seconded by D. Chisholm that the minutes of the April 9, 2012, meeting be accepted as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- External Committee
  - No report.
- Internal Committee
  - No report.

OLD BUSINESS or INFORMATION:

- Status of 2012 joint Division of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) & LEPC functional exercise and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) tabletop exercise
  - S. Mooney reported that both exercises went well and the 1<sup>st</sup> draft of the After Action Report (AAR) has been reviewed.
  - LEPC/DFRS functional exercise:  
This exercise was conducted in a vacant warehouse on Buckheimer Lane. A release of anhydrous ammonia gas was simulated and the incident was mitigated by DFRS. Morningstar Foods assisted as a Subject Matter Expert (SME), and one of their contractors, Industrial Refrigeration Services, Inc., served as SME and provided the tank and piping for the simulation.
  - LEPC/EOC tabletop exercise:  
This exercise was conducted in the EOC with all EOC divisions/agencies represented. It simulated a large tanker that was leaking anhydrous ammonia near the fairgrounds on Wednesday during fair week. This exercise was facilitated by All Hands Consulting, the contractor who assisted with developing both exercises and is writing the AAR.

NEW BUSINESS:

- National Response Center Notifications
  - S. Cooper reported details of five Situational Awareness Reports that had been received from the National Response Center since the last meeting.
- Report on e-mail vote on expenditure of LEPC grant funds
  - S. Cooper reported that approximately 90% of the voting members responded to the e-mail vote on purchasing an anhydrous ammonia meter for DFRS; the vote was unanimous to purchase the meter.
- Sheltering/Functional Needs Support Services (FNSS)
  - S. Mooney reported that the Justice Department is reviewing shelter plans. We will have to change how we operate our shelters based on court cases. We are working to identify the shelter supplies/equipment we will need to shelter individuals with functional needs. This equipment will be stored in trailers. Dr. Brookmyer gave more detailed information on various aspects related to sheltering individuals with functional needs. J. Peterson stated that this was going to be a huge challenge for everyone. The County's Shelter and Mass Care Committee will be meeting with the County Attorney on this issue.
- Calendar year 2013 LEPC Drill/Exercise discussion
  - S. Mooney sought input for suggestions. After some discussion, it was decided we would approach CSX and ask if they would sponsor an exercise in Brunswick similar to the one they did a couple of years ago. R. Himes stated he would make some inquiries. C. Jewell stated we should consider having the exercise during the weekend to allow more participation by the fire/rescue volunteers.
- Upcoming local events (reported by those present at meeting)
  - LPGA Tour (Myersville)
  - Great Frederick County Fair (Frederick)
  - In the Street Festival (Frederick)
  - Tough Mudder Event (Crumland Farm)
  - National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Weekend (Emmitsburg)
  - Catoctin Colorfest (Thurmont)
  - Active Shooter Exercise (Ft. Detrick)

ROUNDTABLE:

- R. Smith
  - In the absence of Chief Eyler, reported that the things went well in Thurmont during the G8 Summit. He stated that the Thurmont Police Department, Frederick County Sheriff's Office, Maryland State Police and Guardian Hose Company did a great job.
  - The name of the National Cancer Institute has been changed to the Frederick National Laboratory (FNL) for Cancer Research. There will be a Community Open House at FNL's Advanced Technology Research Facility on FNL's Progress Drive in Frederick on August 22. He will distribute the flyer to the LEPC group.
- D. Martin
  - Thanked everyone for the assistance during the G8 Summit.

- Reported that 4 recruits were graduating on Friday. The FCSO has been sending them out to training sessions with other agencies in the County whenever possible. This interagency cooperation has been very useful.
- A. Northcraft
  - Regional grant information will be coming out soon.
- D. Orner
  - Reported that the New Market Fire Station renovation started today.
- D. Chisholm
  - Changes are being made to the hospital entrance due to the parking garage construction project.
  - The helipad will be relocated to the hospital roof in October
  - The Voice Over IP (VOIP) radio has been moved to the Emergency Department.
- C. Jewell
  - The new radio system will go operational on September 12; the testing of the system went well. The Emergency Communications will move to the Back-up 9-1-1 Center the same day while renovations occur at the primary communications center at the Law Enforcement Center.
  - A tractor-trailer carrying blasting devices caught fire on I-70 in Washington County on August 10. There was no explosion and the fire was allowed to burn out.
  - Emergency Communications is in the process of conducting interviews for dispatchers.
  - The National Emergency Training Center (NETC) purchased Emergency Call for use with its alert sirens. It activates the sirens based on a polygon for tornadoes. There is a meeting at NETC on August 20 to discuss this issue.
  - He asked if we can use grant funds to get Emergency Call for the municipality sirens.
    - S. Mooney said he would look into it.
  - The Airport Control tower is in operation. Funds have been identified to install a direct line between the Tower and Emergency Communications.
  - The State's 700 MHz radio system is operational and working well.
  - Washington Co. will be hosting a radio interoperability meeting.
  - The FCSO and Emergency Communications was selected to help make a training video.
- B. Brookmyer
  - The State conducted its annual Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) review and the Frederick County Health Department scored 100%, the first in Maryland. They consistently score high during the National Capital Region SNS review, but haven't received their score yet.
  - The Long-Term Care Conference is coming up. Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center representatives will be making a presentation on their recent move to their new building.
  - The Governor and Secretary of Health have tasked the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) with monitoring vulnerable populations during an extreme heat event.
- S. Mooney

We are in the process of developing our Incident Support Team (IST), and are trying to identify software to standardize our Incident Action Plans.

- R. Himes
  - He has had several inquiries about ICS 300 and 400 courses. He will be getting with Dennis Dudley, instructor of the courses.
  - DFRS received a grant to develop a simulation program
  - A class of 19 firefighter recruits will graduate in October.
- J. Peterson
  - The Red Cross is looking at how the Red Cross will be affected by FEMA sheltering decisions.
  - The Red Cross received numerous heat related phone calls. Washington County has a Heat Task Force. An educational piece needs to go out related to extreme heat events.
- T. Johnson
  - Asked how the patient tracking system worked during the Citizens Care and Rehabilitation Center and Montevue Assisted Living relocation.
    - S. Mooney replied that it went well and gave us the opportunity to work with the tracking scanners. Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) brought in extra scanners and a few portable “hot spot” repeater devices. The County has a few “hot spots” mounted in fire/rescue vehicles. We put in a grant request to purchase two portable “hot spots” for the County.

A motion was made by B. Brookmyer and seconded by R. Himes to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 0915 hours.

The next meeting will be held on October 8, 2012, at the Division of Fire and Rescue Services, 5370 Public Safety Place, Frederick, MD 21704.

Respectively submitted by Steven Cooper, Secretary.